BETWEEN THE LINES...

Decicated to
"INDEPENDENT INQUIRY
AND
INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING"

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JANE FONDA, TOM HAYDEN, LEN WEINGLASS, AND DAVID HARRIS will lead a discussion on "The War Conspiracy", Saturday Evening May 17th, at the Conspiracy in America Conference, at UCLA. The conference, sponsored by Campaign for Democratic Freedoms, will run from May 15th to 18th. Some of the other highlights will be: Thursday, May 15, Political Film Festival of the past 50 years, continuous 10 A.M. -- 12 P.M., Saturday 10 A.M. -- 3 P.M. Film and presentation on Robert Kennedy assassination, led by William Turner, Peter Dale Scott, and David G. DuBois. Starting at 3:30 P.M., there will be workshops on The Invisible Government, The Cuban Connection, Martin Luther King, Malcolm X and the Panther Martyrs, and the assassinations of John and Robert Kennedy, led by Art Kunkin, Jeff Cohen, Morris Starsky, Judith Carnoy, May Brussell, and Rusty Rhodes. Cost of the conference is $6.00 per person (4.50 for students), tickets will be available at the door. For further information, call (213) 821-9596.

MYSTERY OF THE MISSING ROCKEFELLER TAPE SOLVED. In the closing days of the 1964 Goldwater-Rockefeller California Primary, Baxter Ward (then a newscaster for KABC TV) did a taped interview with Barry Goldwater. His questions were anything but easy for the Senator, but Barry in his typical style gave quick and direct answers. A day later, he had chance to have an interview with Nelson Rockefeller. He used the identical questions, which shouldn't have been difficult for the Governor. But, he stumbled and stammered his answers, and took a long time on most questions. (At the end of the questioning, one of Rockefeller's aides was overheard saying,"That's the last time he answers questions without seeing them in advance!") Ward then assigned one of his writers to put the two tapes together so he could use them on the air, like a debate. The next day Baxter got a frantic call from his aide, "The Rockefeller Tape is missing?". For two days, the station was turned inside out, but the tape never reappeared. A few weeks ago at a social gathering of a few past and present newsmen of KABC TV, the subject of the missing tape was mentioned. From out of nowhere, one of the newsmen (who has asked to remain anonymous) exclaimed, "I saw Al Mann take it! He was helping the Rockefeller campaign!" (Al Mann left the KABC News Department about 1967 for a similar job with KMOX TV in St. Louis. He left there two years ago, his present whereabouts is unknown.)

FEDERAL POSTCARD REGISTRATION COULD BE CHAOS FOR CALIFORNIA. HR 1686 and S1177 (co-sponsored by Alan Cranston) provide for the establishment and administration of a national voter registration by mail program for federal elections only. All work done by local authorities in processing such registration would be reimbursed 100% by the federal Government. An additional 30% incentive payment would be made to states adopting the same system for state and local elections. In the unanimous opinion of the Los Angeles County Supervisors, the L.A. County Election Commission, and the L.A. County Registrar-Recorder, these bills should be opposed - unless amended - for the following reasons: Impracticality of maintaining dual federal and local registration systems, adoption of registration by mail by states eliminates need for federal system, federal money would be better spent in improving states' registration systems, mail registration is before the State Legislature. Voice your opposition to Senators Tunney and Cranston, and your Congressman, unless amendments are added that exempts states from the federal system which have committed to meet or exceed the federal requirements.

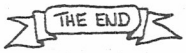
SYMINGTON TO RETIRE: From the Capitol Hill 'ROLL CALL' we've learned that U.S. Senator Stuart Symington (D-Mo) 73 is retiring next year after 24 years in the Senate. Representative Jim Symington, his son, will not have the nomination on a silver platter, but should have an easier time than speculated since former Governor Warren Hearns is tinged by a breaking scandal.

MORE

A NEWLY-RELEASED GOVERNMENT TRANSCRIPT INDICATES THAT PRESIDENT GERALD FORD -- while a member of the Warren Commission 11 years ago -- suspected that Lee Harvey Oswald may have been a secret undercover informer for the F.B.I.. The new transcript has been obtained by assassination researcher Harold Weisberg from the National Archives. The 13-page document of a January 22nd, 1964 meeting of the Warren Commission was thought, for the past decade, to have been destroyed. Weisberg, however, discovered a stenographer's tape of that meeting in the Archive files, and then compelled the government to make him a copy of the missing transcript. The transcript details how the Warren Commissioners, including Ford, discussed rumors that Oswald may have been secretly working for the F.B.I.. Ford then participated in a discussion about Oswald's repeated use of Post Office boxes -- a practice, the Commissioners were told, that is common among undercover F.B.I. informants. In addition, Ford also voiced concern about Oswald's informer-like activity in attempting to make contact with divergent factions of the Communist Party, Ford stated: "He (Oswald) was playing ball -- writing letters -- to both elements of the Communist party. I mean he's playing ball with the trotskyites and the others. This was a strange circumstance to me." In that same meeting, the Commission's Chief Counsel, J. Lee Rankin, told Ford and the other commissioner's that the F.B.I.'s behavior in the Oswald case was unusual. Rankin stated that the F.B.I. was attempting to close the case without checking out numerous leads into Oswald's activities. The final page of the newly-discovered transcript indicates why it has never been made public before. At the end of the discussion, Commission member and former C.I.A. director Allen Dulles proclaims: "I think this record ought to be destroyed."

THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE HAS BURIED -- At least temporarily -- a resolution which calls for the creation of a Congressional Committee to reinvestigate the various American Political Assassinations. The resolution, authored by Texas congressman Henry Gonzalez, proposes setting up a seven member congressional panel to restudy the evidence in the assassinations of President John Kennedy, Senator Robert Kennedy, and Martin Luther King, and in the shooting of Alabama Governor George Wallace. The resolution -- H.R. 204 -- was sent to the rules committee in mid-February, but no hearing on the resolution has been held; and staff members say none are scheduled in the future. When asked if the bill was "buried" in committee, a committee spokesperson said: "I wouldn't say buried -- I'd say it's pending." A total of 14 members of congress are now on the record as supporting H.R. 204.

CONGRESSMAN THOMAS REES (D-LOS ANGELES), Chairman of the International Trade, Investment and Monetary Policy Subcommittee of the House Banking Committee, has announced that his subcommittee is undertaking an investigation of alleged pressure by Arab nations on U.S. companies to discriminate against employees or customers of the Jewish faith.

WATERGATE CONTINUES WITH FORD: Last week an announcement was made that a seven man steering committee, headed by Dean Burch, was formed to direct Gerald Ford's presidential campaign. Among the seven was Ford's close friend Leon Parma. What was not mentioned was that Parma was a key figure in ITT's attempt to sink $400,000 into the Republican National Convention in 1972. According to ROLLING STONE Parma was the head of a San Diego host committee that served as an intermediary between ITT and the Nixon White House. The idea was that the $400,000 would be "laundered" through Parma's committee, instead of passing directly from ITT to the Republicans.

BITS AND PIECES: State Senator Alan Robbins is definitely 'in' the 1977 Los Angeles Mayoralty Race, against Tom Bradley. Bradley stated directly to us on May 6th, "I have always intended to run for a second term".....Lu Haas, chief Los Angeles deputy for Senator Alan Cranston, reports that his office has been getting 30 to 40 phone calls per day in opposition to our policy toward the Vietnam refugees. Amazingly some of the callers have very thick foreign accents?.....In case you haven't heard antiwar activist Tom Hayden is going to run against John Tunney in the Demo Primary, next year..... .....To the applause of the California business community, State Senator David Roberti, has introduced SB 143. It would phase out the inventory tax over a 5-year period..... At a convention of Narcotics Officers in San Diego, L.A. Police Chief Edward Daivs called the legislators trying to change the 'pot' laws, "Sons of Bitches". On Michael Jackson's radio program, he called the legislators, "screwballs"??????